

Message Text

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TAGS: OREP (CODEL JAVITS)
SUBJECT: CODEL JAVIT'S REMARKS TO PRESS FOLLOWING MEETING WITH
PM BEGIN AT KNESSET MONDAY, MARCH 27.

1. FOLLOWING ARE SENATOR JAVIT'S REMARKS TO THE PRESS FOLLOWING
HIS MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER BEGIN AT THE KNESSET ON
MONDAY, MARCH 27, 1978:

2. Q: SENATOR, ARE YOU STILL WORRIED ABOUT RELATIONS BETWEEN
ISRAEL AND THE UNITED STATES?

3. A: YES I AM. I AM STILL WORRIED BUT I AM DEEPLY ENCOURAGED
BY THE OBVIOUS FRIENDSHIP AND JUDICIOUSNESS OF THE PRIME
MINISTER, HIS OBVIOUS FRIENDSHIP AND RESPECT FOR PRESIDENT
CARTER AND HIS DESIRE TO FIND WAYS IN WHICH WE CAN BE
SURE THAT WE UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER AND THAT THE ADMIRABLE
INITIATIVE WHICH THE PRIME MINISTER TOOK IN THE PEACE PLAN
WHICH HE PROPOSED MAY BE SUITABLY FOLLOWED UP AND SUITABLY
APPRECIATED, AND I SHALL COMMUNICATE THOSE VIEWS
TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND TO MY COLLEAGUES
IN THE CONGRESS. I HOPE THAT WHEN WE GET DOWN
UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 TEL AV 04179 290640Z

TO THE FINITE DETAILS OF THE AREAS OF DISAGREEMENT, THAT
WE MAY FIND THAT MAYBE WE DON'T DISAGREE - THAT IS THE PRESIDENT
AND THE PRIME MINISTER - AS MUCH AS HAS BEEN ADVERTISED.
I RATHER THINK THAT THAT IS PROBABLY SO, BUT I AM ALSO
DEEPLY HEARTENED BY THE FACT THAT JUST LIKE PRESIDENT
CARTER, THE PRIME MINISTER IS NOT DISCOURAGED OR DISHEARTENED,
AND THAT HE DOES INTEND TO PROCEED VIGOROUSLY IN AN EFFORT

TO FURTHER THE PEACE INITIATIVE WHICH HE IS, I THINK, QUITE DETERMINED NOT TO LET LAPSE. I FEEL THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS OF THE SAME MOOD AND PERHAPS ALL OF US HAVE BEEN A LITTLE MORE DISMAYED THAN WE HAD ANY RIGHT TO BE IN SO COMPLEX A NEGOTIATION BY THE DISAPPOINTMENTS WHICH WE HAVE SUFFERED IN THE FACT THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO QUICKER AGREEMENT THAN THERE HAS BEEN.

4. Q: YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT PROCEEDING VIGOROUSLY, WHAT IS THE NEXT STEP THAT YOU EXPECT NOW TO BE TAKEN?

5. A: THAT WILL BE UP TO THE PRIME MINISTER, THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND PRESIDENT SADAT BUT I BELIEVE THAT WITHIN THE NEXT DAYS WE WILL SEE ACTION WHICH WILL MOVE THE PEACE PROCESS FORWARD. THAT, AFTER ALL, IS WHAT I VERY MUCH HOPE FOR.

6. Q: ARE YOU REFERRING TO A VISIT BY DEFENSE MINISTER WEIZMAN TO EGYPT?

7. A: I AM NOT REFERRING TO ANY SINGLE EVENT. I HOPE SUCH A VISIT TAKES PLACE. I HOPE VERY MUCH THAT A SUITABLE DELEGATION OF ISRAEL WILL COME TO THE UNITED STATES TO DISCUSS FURTHER WITH A SUITABLE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES THESE ISSUES WHICH SEEM TO HAVE HAD DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW BY PRESIDENT CARTER AND BY PRIME MINISTER
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PAGE 03 TEL AV 04179 290640Z

BEGIN. I HOPE VERY MUCH THAT PRESIDENT SADAT WILL RECONSIDER THOSE POSITIONS IN WHICH HE IS SEEN TO TAKE AN INFLEXIBLE LINE. IT'S NOT BY ANY MEANS BEEN ONLY, AS CHARGED, ISRAEL. AFTER ALL PRESIDENT SADAT HAS SET 'ABSOLUTE PRECONDITIONS' OF COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL AND SELF DETERMINATION WHICH WILL EVEN ALLOW FOR AN INDEPENDENT STATE NEXT TO ISRAEL WHICH IT CANNOT ACCEPT. SO EVERYBODY HAS TO LEARN A LOT FROM THIS BRUSH WITH A DISASTROUS COLLAPSE OF NEGOTIATIONS WHICH I THINK HAS NOW BEEN SUCCESSFULLY AVOIDED. AND THAT HAPPENS IN THESE VERY COMPLEX MATTERS. I HOPE THAT THIS LESSON WILL PUT US ON THE ROAD TO SUCCESS BECAUSE I STILL REMAIN OPTIMISTIC THAT THIS CAN BE AND WILL BE DONE.

8. Q: SENATOR, MAY WE ASSUME FROM YOUR OPTIMISM THAT THE PRIME MINISTER HAS REDUCED HIS NUMBER OF NAYS FROM SIX TO LESS THAN THAT?

9. A: WELL, I THINK IT'S RATHER UNFORTUNATE IF WE CLING TO THE "SIX NAY" BUSINESS. I REALIZE PUBLIC RELATIONS MAKE THIS A VERY ATTRACTIVE CATCHWORD BUT I HOPE VERY MUCH THAT IN DISCUSSION AND NEGOTIATION, THESE NOES ARE BROKEN

DOWN INTO THEIR FINITE DETAILS, THAT THEY WILL BE BOUND
NOT NEARLY AS FORMIDABLE AS THEY SEEM TO HAVE BEEN RECEIVED UP
TILL NOW.

10. Q: IN HAVING YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH ISRAELI LEADERS, HAVE
YOU NOW COME TO FIND MORE FLEXIBILITY IN THE ISRAELI POSITIONS
THAT YOU THOUGHT EXISTED PREVIOUSLY?

11. A: I DIDN'T BELIEVE THAT THE ISRAELI POSITION WAS
INFLEXIBLE. I BELIEVE THAT A DEMONSTRATION NEEDS
TO BE GIVEN ON ALL SIDES OF A GREATER UNDERSTANDING OF EACH
OTHER'S POSITION, AND I BELIEVE THAT THAT'S NOW COMING AND
IT ISN'T ANYTHING I HAVE DONE. IT'S JUST HISTORY AND THE
PRESSURE OF EVENTS AND THE DANGER OF MISCARRIAGE OF EVENTS,
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PAGE 04 TEL AV 04179 290640Z

I BELIEVE, HAS BROUGHT THAT ABOUT ON THE PART OF THE VARIOUS
PARTIES. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
LEWIS

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